DM-10/03



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Attorney Docket No:

Serial No:

In re Application of:

Confirmation No:

Chen, et al. 10/036,736

Date:

November 3, 2003

Filed:

December 21, 2001

Art Unit:

3761 .

3665

Our Customer ID:

Title:

Sponge-Like Pad Comprising Paper Layers

And Method Of Manufacture

Our Account No:

Commissioner for Patents U.S. Patent and Trademark Office Post Office Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

2827 GECHNOLOGY CENTER R3700 & The following is an Information Disclosure Statement for the captioned patent application, pursuant to 37 CFR Sections 1.56, 1.97, and 1.98.

- Attached hereto is:
  - A list of materials for consideration per Rule 98(a)(1): 1 page(s) a.[x]
  - A legible copy of each patent, publication, or other item listed per Rule 98(1)(2), unless not required per Rule 98 and/or as indicated on the attached list(s): 7 item(s)
  - For each non-English language item listed, pursuant to Rule 98(a)(3), a concise explanation of the c.[] relevance thereof as it is presently understood by the individual designated in Rule 56(c) most knowledgeable about the content of such items:
    - [ ] Such explanation is provided in the Search Report from a corresponding application enclosed herewith along with any enclosed translation into English.
- This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed [CHECK ONE]: 2.[x]
  - WITHIN THREE MONTHS of the application filing date, national stage date of entry, or along with or after a request for continued examination, OR BEFORE the mailing date of a first Office Action on the merits, which ever event occurs last, WHEREFORE per Rule 97(b) NO filling fee or Rule 97(e) certificate is required.
  - AFTER the time periods of section 2.a above, but BEFORE a Final Action, Notice of Allowance  $\underline{OR}$  an b.[] action that otherwise closes prosecution, WHEREFORE PER Rule 97(c) submitted herewith is [CHECK ONE]:
    - Certification per Rule 97(e); OR i.[]

ii[]

- AFTER a Final Action OR Notice of Allowance, but BEFORE payment of the issue fee, WHEREFORE per Rule 97(d) submitted herewith is:
  - Certification per Rule 97(e); AND i.
  - ii.
- Rule 97(e) Certification; per Rule 97(e), the undersigned certifying party make the following certification 3.[] statement [CHECK ONE]:
  - That each item of information contained in this Information Disclosure Statement was first cited in a a.[] communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of this statement; OR
  - That no item of information contained in this Information Disclosure Statement was cited in a foreign b.[] patent office in a counterpart foreign application and to the knowledge of the undersigned after making a reasonable inquiry, was known to any individual designated in Rule 56(c) more than three months prior to the filing of this statement.

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NOTE:

If no indication is made in the column marked "COPY NOTE," the required legible copy of the corresponding item is submitted herewith; otherwise, a copy is not required and/or not submitted, for the following reason(s) [corresponding reason number is listed in "COPY NOTE" column]"

This item is cumulative, per Rule 98(c) (1) A copy of this item was previously cited by or submitted to the U.S. (2)

Patent and Trademark Office in: USSN \_, filed \_ USSN Relied on under 35 U.S.C. Section 120, per Rule 98(d)

Both reasons (1) and (2) apply (3)

No legible complete copy is possessed, in custody of controlled, or readily available

Per the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office's waiver of Rule 98(a)(2)(2) (5) the item is a U.S. patent or patent application publication, and the pasent application was filed after June 30, 2003.

U.S. PATENT D	OCUMENTS									
EXAMINER INITIALS	PATENTEE NAME	PA	TENT	NU	1000-	COPY NOTE				
	+_	7	18	0	3	6	1	10/25/1988		
	Schlein		6	15	0	6	9	4	04/15/1997	
	Girardot Ouellette, et al.	6	5	3	4	1	7	4	03/18/2003	

U.S. PATENT APPLICATION PUBLICATIONS											
EXAMINER INITIALS	PU	BLIC	CATI	ON I	NUM	PUBLICATION DATE	COPY NOTE				
<del></del>	Borgonjon, et al.	0	1	2	1	5	3	0	07/03/2003		
	Huyhn, et al.		1	6	2	6	8	4	08/28/2003	l	

FOREIGN PAT	ENT DOCUM	ŒN	TS											
EXAMINER INITIALS	COUNTRY	DOCUMENT NUMBER								PUBLICATION DATE	TRAN	NOTE		
i i											YES	ИО	N/A	
	wo	0	3	0	1	1	1	0	2 A1	02/13/2003			X	
	EP	0	9	4	5	2	5	1	A1	09/29/1999		1 day (	X	01

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EXAMINER INITIALS	OTHER DOCUMENTS  Specify author (if any), Title, Pertinent Pages, Date & Place of Publication	COPY NOTE					
EXAMINER	EXAMINER DATE CONSIDERED						
Examiner:	initial if citation considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with M draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include this form with the next communication to applicant.	a copy of					